

REMEDICATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR
May 7, 1999

COMM 46 STATUS

The departments of Natural Resources and Commerce have met numerous times to redraft Comm 46 into a clearer rule format and to ensure that it is implemented in a manner consistent with the groundwater law. The departments presented proposed new rule language to the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR) on April 27. That rule draft, however, did not include table numbers for soils in the upper four feet or groundwater values in low permeability material. The departments have now developed those numbers, and they will be forwarded to the Committee today. DNR field staff CONTINUE to report that a major problem with implementation of the current rule is receipt of case closure requests that contain incomplete site investigations. When the site investigation does not present adequate information to make a closure determination, DNR will return the case closure request.

BROWNFIELDS FUNDING NOTICE!

Attention Local Governments and Non-Profits:

Did you know that the City of Memphis, Tennessee received a \$1 million grant and a \$4 million loan guarantee from HUD to acquire and remediate the former Firestone Tire and Rubber Plant? It's True! And You Can Too! The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Economic Development Administration (EDA) have recently announced funding now available that can be used for, or in conjunction with, brownfields cleanup and redevelopment projects.

HUD GRANTS: On February 26, HUD issued a Super Notice of Fund Availability (SuperNOFA) in the Federal Register, which announced a number of grant programs including the Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI). The BEDI is a grant program that must be used in conjunction with a new Section 108 loan guarantee. The Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program allows local governments to borrow money for economic development using their future CBDG funds as collateral. Up to \$25 million is available in BEDI funds for projects that promote community and economic development. Funds can be used for a range of brownfields redevelopment, including site acquisition, demolition, infrastructure improvements, remediation, or for loans to site developers.

Applications for BEDI grants are due June 25, 1999. For more information, see Federal Register/ Vol. 64, No. 38, February 26, 1999, or look on HUD's web site: <http://www.hud.gov/finanbf.html> For an application kit, call HUD's SuperNOFA Information line at 1-800-HUD-8929; for questions about the program, call Stan Gimont or Paul Webster at (202) 708-1871.

EDA GRANTS: There are a number of EDA programs that can be used to enhance brownfields redevelopment projects, including the Public Works and Development Facilities Assistance, Technical Assistance and Planning Assistance programs. The EDA recently announced its new policies and application procedures under the Economic Development Administration Reform Act (effective February 11, 1999). Generally, EDA grants are for projects that alleviate conditions of unemployment in economically-distressed areas. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis and will be processed as funds are available. For more information, see the Federal Register/ Vol. 64,

No. 36, February 24, 1999, or contact the EDA Economic Development Representative for Wisconsin: John Peck, P.O. Box 517, Acme, MI 49610-0517, (616) 938-1712.

Also, look on EDAs web site: <http://www.doc.gov/eda/>
To find out more about these and other brownfields redevelopment financial incentives, call Michael Prager at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, (608) 261-4927.

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